



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Indigenous and Governmental Affairs Strategist

Location: First Alaskans Institute, Anchorage Office
Reports to: Alaska Native Policy Center Director
FTE / Wage: 1.0 Regular Full-Time Equivalent / DOE
FSLA Designation: Exempt

Core Purpose of this Role

The **Indigenous and Governmental Affairs Strategist** plays an important role within the Alaska Native Policy Center (ANPC) to build relationships, connections, and unity to amplify the self-determination of our peoples through advancing and protecting Alaska Native ways of living, being and knowing. This position responds to the growing need within our Alaska Native community to host difficult dialogues that advance our Native peoples, social justice and self-determination through policy change and healing for the advancement of our collective and cultural ways of life.

This position will:

- Steward relationships between our sovereign governments - Tribal, State, Federal;
- Connect the expansive community of government, organizations, Native corporations and other businesses, partnerships, communities, which are vital to advancing our mission;
- Support our work to advance healing, restoration and indigenization through operationalizing Native knowledge and values, and in our day to day engagements;
- Strategize & implement meaningful opportunities to amplify Native peoples and all that makes us vital to the health and well-being of our cultures, languages, homelands, and this state;
- Host meaningful, healing dialogues across Alaska to effectuate a more dynamic policy landscape that helps achieve our vision of progress for the next 10,000 years....

This position will help to advance FAI's vision and mission through our strategic plan and work plans, which includes a critical focus on advancing the following five key objectives within the ANPC:

- **Advancing Self-Determination:** We catalyze Alaska Natives and allies to advance self-determination at all levels, through dialogues, relevant & timely information, and connection to resources.
- **Advancing Our Ways of Life:** Advance and protect Alaska Native ways of life, support thriving peoples, communities, and governance.
- **Knowing, Living and Loving Who We Are:** Grounded in Native values, we define, live and love who we are so that our cultures and peoples are vibrant, thriving, and valued by all.
- **Shaping the Knowledge That Informs Alaskans:** We seek to ensure that Alaska Natives are prominently represented through diverse, effective storytelling and policy-making that influences decision-making on all levels across Alaska.
- **Being Good Relatives:** Our work is integrated across all regions and governance structures and we catalyze expansive partnerships to advance unity across the state.

First Alaskans Institute

We look to the Indigenous and Governmental Affairs Strategist for leadership that exemplifies our Native peoples and effectively contributes to an indigenous team environment that embodies the strength and knowledge of our peoples, values, and cultures. Essential to this team approach are members who are the right fit and bring the capacity and experience that contribute to our ability to succeed in our work for our Native community.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Identify and cultivate relationships that advance the mission of the organization, with a focus on community and intergovernmental affairs;
- Build a strategy that links our networks and efforts across initiatives to advance policy, institutional and systemic changes that advance our ways of life;
- Track current issues and policy efforts as they relate to our mission and strategic plan;
- Design and execute advocacy training modules across Alaska;
- Initiate, co-host, and lead engagement efforts, including healing dialogues;
- Work to build partnerships and alignment with decision-makers at all levels including: Tribal, State and Federal governments, Alaska Native corporations and organizations, Tribal fish commissions, community advocates, partner organizations, and others as needed;
- Manage the FAI Census Information Center, track Census, redistricting and voting efforts;
- Represent FAI at various events / convening's around Alaska and the nation, as appropriate;
- Other duties as necessary to support success for our community engagement efforts.

Skills/Knowledge

- Strong communication, engagement and writing skills;
- Dynamic personality, desire to advocate, and raise Native issues in all forums;
- Passion and commitment to build professional relationships and partnerships across the State;
- Ability to research, analyze content and current issues to build policy platforms and influence public policy and systems change;
- Demonstrated initiative to work both independently and collectively within the work space;
- Knowledge of Alaska Native and Alaska history, state and federal laws as they pertain to the status and rights of Alaska Natives; including the various layers of governance within our communities, regions and structures;
- Ability to create and capitalize on opportunities to educate about the distinct political and racial statuses we hold as Native people which define our government to government relationships;
- Ability to manage multiple projects and deadlines, and respond quickly to emerging opportunities with flexibility and good humor;
- Desire to learn and ability to host community dialogues utilizing FAI's dialogue process.

Education/Work Experience

Bachelor's degree preferred and a minimum of three years' experience working in advocacy, governance, public policy, rural/community development, project management, communications. Valid Alaska Driver's license with clean driving record and background check required.

First Alaskans Institute is a dynamic organization changing as needed to best address its goals. This job description is representative of duties at a moment in time and is intended as a "living document" updated periodically to reflect changes in job responsibilities and/or emphasis. It is not intended or implied to be an employment contract but is a method of communication to explain the responsibilities, advertise the job, and identify performance measures and potential training needs.